

Office of Mayor Jerry Sanders

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Mayor Sanders Praises Decision to Re-Evaluate Homeland Security Grant Process

The Department of Homeland Security will consider adding military installations and border proximity as factors in determining City's share of federal grant money

Washington D.C - Mayor Jerry Sanders, in D.C. to discuss the Department of Homeland Security's recent assessment that San Diego is not a "high risk" area for terrorist attack, got word today that the Department will re-evaluate the formula used to make that determination.

"I am pleased that the Department of Homeland Security was willing to listen to our concerns and take another look at border proximity and the presence of military bases as risk factors," Sanders said. "With the help of Representatives Duncan Hunter, Bob Filner and Susan Davis, and the support of our California senators, we were clearly able to make a compelling case that San Diego belongs on the list of cities receiving the most homeland security dollars."

Earlier this year, DHS announced that based on its assessment formula, San Diego might be disqualified from future funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Program.

San Diego currently is eligible to apply for UASI funding in FY06 on a "sustainment basis" only, and could be removed from the list completely in FY07 if our current assessment remains the same.

Mayor Sanders has been in Washington D.C. since Wednesday for meetings at the White House, on Capitol Hill, at the Pentagon and at the Department of Homeland Security.

Convincing the DHS to reconsider its UASI formula was one of the Mayor's major agenda items for his east coast trip.

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